GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3400
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
CONFERENCE OF CUSTOM HEADS
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI;RAM SINGH KASWAN

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the Chiefs of customs of several countries on combating and containing terrorism was recently held;

(b) if so, the names of the participant countries; and

(c) the issues discussed therein and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH.VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): No Sir. However a meeting of the Heads of Customs Enforcement Services for the Asia and Pacific Region was organized in association with the World Customs organization, Brussels on 14th and 15th May, 2002 in New Delhi.

(b): Besides India, Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji Island, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Malaysia Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar and Vietnam participated in the meeting.

(c): The meeting discussed a wide range of issues concerning enforcement of Customs laws. This also included Customs response to International terrorism. The meeting observed that all Customs administrations need to create facilities for detection of arms, explosives, narcotics, biological and chemical weapons etc.